# The Cheerful Letter

EVERY PLACE A CHURCH; EVERY DAY THE LORD'S DAY; ALL EVENTS BLESSINGS; ALL JOY THANKSGIVING; AND ALL NATURE AND LIFE FULL OF GOD.—*James Freeman Clarke.*

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## THE RESURRECTION

AND when the sabbath had passed Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought some spices in order to go and anoint him; and very early on the first day of the week they went to the tomb, after sunrise. But a great earthquake took place; an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and went and rolled away the boulder and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his raiment white as snow. For fear of him the sentries shook and became like dead men. The women said to themselves, "Who will roll away the boulder for us at the opening of the tomb?" (for it was a very large boulder). But when they looked they saw the boulder had been rolled to one side, and on entering the tomb, they could not find the body of Jesus, but they saw a youth sitting on the right dressed in a white robe. They were bewildered, but he said to them, "Do not be bewildered. You are looking for Jesus of Nazaret, who was crucified? Why do you look among the dead for him who is alive? He has risen, he is not here. That is the place where he was laid. Remember how he told you when he was still in Galilee that the Son of man had to be betrayed into the hands of sinful men and be crucified and rise on the third day. Go you and tell his disciples and Peter, 'He has risen from the dead. He precedes you to Galilee; you shall see him there, as he told you. That is my message for you.'" Then they remembered what he had said.

Then they ran quickly from the tomb in fear and great joy, to announce the news to his disciples. And Jesus himself met them, saying, "Hail!" So they went up to him and caught hold of his feet and worshipped him; then Jesus said to them, "Have no fear! Go and tell my brothers to leave for Galilee; they shall see me there."

They reported all this to the eleven and all the others. (It was Mary of Magdala, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James who with the rest of the women told this to the apostles.) But this story of the women seemed in their opinion to be nonsense; they would not believe them. Peter did get up and run to the tomb, but when he looked in he saw nothing except the linen bandages; so he went away home wondering what had happened.

Some of the sentries went into the city and reported all that had taken place to the high priests, who, after meeting and conferring with the elders, gave a considerable sum of money to the soldiers and told them to say that "his disciples came at night and stole him when we were asleep." "If this comes to the ears of the governor," they added, "we will satisfy him and see that you have no trouble about the matter." So the soldiers took the money and followed their instruction; and this story has been disseminated among the Jews down to the present day.

That very day two of them were on their way to a village called Emmaus about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were conversing about all these events, and during their conversation and discussion Jesus himself approached and walked beside them, though they were prevented from recognizing him. He said to them, "What is all this you are debating on your walk?" They stopped, looking downcast, and one of them called Cleopas, answered him, "Are you a lone stranger in Jerusalem, not to know what has been happening there?" "What is that?" he said to them. They replied, "All about Jesus of Nazaret! To God and all the people he was a prophet strong in action and utterance, but the high priests and our rulers delivered him up to be sentenced to death and crucified him. Our own hope was that he would be the redeemer of Israel; but he is dead, and that is three days ago! Though some women of our number gave us a surprise, they were at the tomb early in the morning and could not find his body, but they came to tell us they had actually seen a vision of angels who declared he was alive. Some of our company did go to the tomb and found things exactly

as the women had said, but they did not see him." He said to them, "O foolish men, with hearts so slow to believe, after all the prophets have declared! Had not the Christ to suffer thus and so enter his glory?" Then he began with Moses and all the prophets and interpreted to them the passages referring to himself throughout the Scriptures. Now they approached the village to which they were going He pretended to be going further on, but they pressed him, saying, "Stay with us, for it is getting towards evening and the day has now declined." So he went in to stay with them. And as he lay at table with them he took the loaf, blessed it, broke it, and handed it to them. Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. And they said to one another, "Did not our heart glow within us when he was talking to us on the road, opening up the Scriptures for us?"—*From "The Story of Jesus" (the Complete record of Matthew, Mark and Luke in a single narrative—in modern English).*

## THE EASTER MESSAGE

THIS is "the Life!" Not that he came again
Into these misty twilights of the earth,
But that he rose at once from death and pain
To Heaven's immortal birth!

This is "the Resurrection!" No mere form
Out of death's gloom an hour's revisit given,
But the great Life, above earth's change and storm,
Forever in God's heaven!

O death, that ever followeth after life!
O life, that ever cometh out of death!
Now do we know, in that great ceaseless strife,
'T is Life that conquereth!

So "Christ is risen" is not alone their strain
Who can receive the ancient word of faith;
But for all hearts that hear, and not in vain,
His Gospel,—which each spring repeats again,—
Of Life that conquers death.

—*Brooke Herford.*

## THE POWER OF A GLOWING PERSONALITY

"*Did not our heart burn within us while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the Scriptures.*"—LUKE 24: 32.

THE state of mind of these men on their way to Emmaus may be thought of as typifying the condition of the world today. Since the war we have been in the presence of reaction. Lesser men have drifted in weariness and despair, and in many instances nobler men have lived to regret the dreams of yesterday.

Into the hearts of these disciples, even in the hour of darkest gloom, came an enthralling new hope, giving to old dreams fresh meaning. Their hearts burned with a sense of new allurements, of spiritual enterprises and conquests. In view of their experience, we may hope for quickening for ourselves and others.

The disciples had staked all upon a cause, or rather upon a Person. Full consciousness of our Lord's mission had not possessed them; but they had come to have a profound faith in Jesus of Nazareth and had centered all their hopes in Him. Then had fallen upon them the death of this Person whom they had so trusted. He was crucified as a malefactor; and there seemed an end to all hopes staked on Him.

It is a tribute to the shining personality of our Lord that, even in this blackest hour, a wistful loyalty reveals itself in His disciples. Cruel disillusionment cannot shake from their hearts a dim expectancy that in some way the situation may yet be remedied. There is more than the note of loyalty in the words: "We trusted that it had been He which should redeem Israel."

Then suddenly a stranger joins them on the way, asking: "What manner of communications are these that ye have one to another, as ye walk and are sad?"

In response to the quickening voice of the Stranger they feel new hopes, envisage a new realm, are moved to action, and go on to work for the conquest of the world in the name of Him whom they have trusted.

If this world could have a vision of Jesus of Nazareth, it might work new conquests.

I would not disparage the importance of organization in spiritual enterprise in an age when all life is established on the basis of big movements. Yet it is not by organization that new aspiration and new hope arise, but by the power of new contacts.

The mountain-tops of vision give men glowing words that bring conviction of new experiences.

Let me say a word as to the contents of Jesus' message. "He opened to them the Scriptures." This was the cause of their waking. What were these Scriptures? The Old Testament canon. Its words had not always been received by minds so reverent. Its authors had suffered for their faith and vision. Their words had not been understood. Perhaps they are not yet understood altogether. In a sense, these disciples knew the words as well as Jesus. But He *opened to them their meaning.*

These records of experience, hope, vision, the communion with God of great souls of the past God has used to make known His truth in the world. Back of the Bible there is experience.

Every thought of the Bible has come to expression because men first lived it. Jesus, on the way to Emmaus, revealed the living thought of Scripture. He began with Moses. Who was Moses? One who endured as seeing Him who is invisible; a man who loved freedom and in his love found new fellowship with God; a man who felt and confessed the sins of his people, as the suffering Servant of Isaiah bore the sins of men. As Jesus opened the Scriptures, His *living Personality became real* to these men and they understood and thrilled at the thought.

I suppose that all of us have in life enlightening moments.

Often as we view a landscape, our companion remarks upon something that we have not seen. Then a finger is pointed, and we, also, see.

Is not this the function of a great religious teacher—to make men see?

We have thought so long in terms of science that we forget the sudden gleam in life when all is changed by the glory of vision.

Jesus opened to them the Scriptures. We must open the Scriptures to men.

We must enable people to grasp the teachings of the Bible; must bring men under the power of God, to whom the Scriptures lead; must take away the veil; must teach the spirit, not the letter, and so open the Scripture to men.

Dr. John Daniel Jones, of Bournemouth, has a sermon on "Many other things did Jesus in the presence of His disciples which are not written in this book." Dr. Jones seeks to point out what would be the results of the life of Jesus lived constantly in the world today, every enterprise being an expression of His spirit.

God is writing great things in the chapters still going on. If we were not dull of heart, we should understand the glory of this record.

There are spiritual capacities in ordinary men, if we only could discover them. There they are, ready to respond to some great revealing appeal or pointing out of Jesus.

God still is writing in the hearts and lives of men.

Every man is worth while. The two men on the Emmaus road said: "We trusted that it had been He that should redeem Israel." That day Jesus taught these disciples that they must *share his work and his sacrifice.* He reveals salvation as the way of the soul, something that we are to share with Him. We have the privilege of working out with Christ His glory of redemption.

I appeal not for a fiery enthusiasm that shall be burned out tomorrow, but for a glow that endures. For these two men, disillusionment was wiped out forever by the shining of the new vision. Men like them Jesus sets at the task of fulfilling His mission.

"Did not our heart burn within us?"

Thus it always is when the Scripture is open to us and our hearts are open to its truth. The way to faith, hope and Christian activity for us is the same way that brought to these men final reality. When *Christ opens to us the Scripture,* we shall *have an experience such as theirs* and shall be sent forth to like tasks.—*Rev. William E. Gilroy, D.D.*

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EMOTIONAL Christianity is not safe without an intellectual background.—*Canon E. W. Barnes.*

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BEING everlastingly on the job beats carrying a rabbit's foot for luck.

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## WITH OUR HOME-KEEPERS

### FAVORITE RECIPES

*Potato Cakes.*—Peel about 2 quarts potatoes and cook in salted water until tender. Drain and mash. Add more salt, caraway seeds and flour enough to make stiff. Flatten out into round cake about 1 inch thick, cut as you would pie and bake in frying pan on top stove. Have plenty salt pork fat to cook them in. Turn every few minutes so they will not burn. They should be eaten while hot, with plenty butter.

*Nut Chocolate Square.*—Melt 2 squares unsweetened chocolate over boiling water, add ½ cup melted butter and 1 cup brown sugar and heat thoroughly. Stir in the beaten yolks of 2 eggs, flavor with 1 teaspoon vanilla and ½ teaspoon lemon, add ⅛ cup flour and finally fold in the stiffly-beaten egg whites. Pour into a shallow pan lined with oiled paper, sprinkle with chopped nuts, bake in a moderate oven and cut in squares when cold.

*Scotch Apple Tart.*—Peel and core 6 tart apples and place in crock in slow oven, adding no water. When tender add ¼ pound sultana raisins to each pound apples. Turn into deep baking dish, sprinkle with sugar and grated lemon or orange; cover with top crust, which has been well pricked to allow steam to escape, and bake in quick oven. Serve with cream.

*Beefsteak Roll.*—Take 1 slice of round steak, not too thick, lay it out flat, then sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Make a dressing of 1½ cups of bread crumbs, 1 onion chopped fine, ½ teaspoon of sage, 1 tablespoon of butter, hot water enough to moisten and pepper and salt to taste, and 1 egg beaten.

Mix well and spread dressing on the steak, roll up and tie well, then sprinkle outside with salt, pepper, dredge well with flour and fry in fat until brown, then put meat and fat in a pan and add water till half covered.

Bake two hours, the first half-hour covered, the last uncovered. The egg can be used or not in the dressing.

## THE BOOK AND MAGAZINE CLUB

*Send all offers and requests for this department to Mrs. H. A. Stevens, 25 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.*

Please remember, when you see a request for a book in the Book Club, to write a card asking "*Shall* I send such a book to such a person?" before sending it, else the person who requests it may receive several copies. When any one writes directly to you, asking for a book offered by you, send a card to Mrs. Stevens, saying that you *have* sent it. When you receive more requests than you can meet, send those to the Book Club to be printed here.

### SPECIAL NOTICES

It will greatly aid those who are sending books, magazines, cards, and so forth, if all our correspondents who send requests for their children will take pains to mention their names and ages. Lacking such information, one is likely to make mistakes; for a boy of twelve and a girl of seven are not usually interested in the same things.

When requesting books for the first time, correspondents should always give, as reference, the name and address of their clergyman.

When correspondents move to a new address, notice should be sent either to our headquarters, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass., or to those persons who have been sending books and magazines.

**It is necessary to state positively that the Cheerful Letter Exchange is not a "clothing bureau" and not a "charitable" society in the usual sense of the word. We do not undertake to send correspondents money, clothing or household goods. Letters asking for that sort of assistance cannot receive attention. Letters not signed cannot be printed.**

**Many people do care for just the kind of friendly service for which we are organized. We limit our efforts to them and their wishes.**

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Those who enjoy receiving books and magazines are asked to remember that they, in their turn, can give much pleasure if they will take pains to write to the persons who send such reading matter. In cases where no word of response goes back—not even to say that the books or magazines were received—senders may suppose the parcels were not welcome. Let us each do our share.

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### OFFERS

For the following books address Mrs. E. D. Sherburne, 276 Upham Street, Melrose, Mass.

*English*

Outline of English Literature. F. R. Love.
New Language Lessons. William Swinton.
Literature Primers: English Literature. Rev. Stopford Brooke.
Elements of English Composition. Chittenden.
Pronouncing American Dictionary.
Handbook of Anglo-Saxon Derivations.

*French*

French Grammar. Whitney.
French Grammar. Keetels.
Fasquelle's New French Method and "Key" to same. Louis Fasquelle, LL.D.
French Self-taught. Franz Thimm.
"Speak French." A book for the soldiers.
"Evangeline." Emile Pengault.
French Translation, self taught.

*Greek*

Tables, illustrative of Greek Inflection. Crosby.
Selections from Herodotus.
Herodotus. Johnson.
Herodotus: Second Persian War. A. H. Cooke, M.A.
A First Book in Greek. Graves and Hawes.
Lexicon. Abridged from Liddell & Scott's Greek-English Lexicon.
First Greek Book. Gleason and Atherton.
Greek for Beginners.
Key to Beginners' Greek Composition. Atherton.
The Beginners' Greek Composition. Collar and Daniell.
Baird's Classical Manual (2 copies).
First Lessons in Greek. John W. White, Ph.D.
Copy of Pope's Iliad (in English).
Philippics of Demosthenes (2 copies). Edited by Frank B. Tarbell.
Elementary Greek Grammar. Goodwin.
A New Greek and English Lexicon. James Donnegan, M.D.
School Classics: The Timon of Lucian. Sewall.
School Classics: The Gate to the Anabasis. Gleason.
Introduction to Greek Prose Composition. A. Sedgwick, M.A.
History Primers: History of Greece, by C. A. Fyffe.
History Primers: Old Greek Life, by J. P. Mahaffy.
Aeschylus.

*Latin*

Grammar. Allen and Greenough.
Grammar. Harkness (2 copies).
Caesar's Gallic War. Lowe and Ewing.
Caesar (with Vocab.). Allen and Greenough.
Caesar's Gallic War. George Stuart.

Ovid (with Vocab.). Allen and Greenough.
The Histories of Tacitus. W. S. Tyler.
Germania and Agricola, of Tacitus. W. S. Tyler.
Gradatim, by Heatley and Kingdon (2 copies).
The Beginner's Latin Book. Collar and Daniell.
The Student's Series: Exercises in Latin Composition. Daniell.
Analysis of the Latin Verb. Parkhurst.
Cornelius Nepos. J. C. Rolfe.
Colloquia Latina. D'Ooge.
School Classics: Aeneid VII. Collar.
School Classics: Erasmus. Clark.
Elementary Classics: Caesar—Invasion of Britain. Welch and Duffield.
Elementary Classics: Caesar—Helvetian War. Welch and Duffield.
Helps to the Intelligent Study of College Preparatory Latin. Harrington.
Cicero's Orations.
The Expression of Customary Action or State in Early Latin.
Vergil's Aeneid. Harper and Miller.

*Mathematics*

Descriptive Geometry and Shades and Shadows. Church.
Descriptive Geometry (Plates). Church.
Olney's General Geometry and Calculus.
Logarithmic Tables. George William Jones.
Inventional Geometry (a series of problems). William George Spencer.
College Algebra. Bowser.
Robinson's New Elementary Algebra.
Key to Robinson's New Elementary Algebra.

*Science*

Elementary Lessons in Electricity and Magnetism. Silvanus Thompson
An Elementary Manual of Chemistry. Abridged from Eliot and Storer's Manual. William Ripley Nichols.
Laboratory Exercises in Chemistry, with simple apparatus.
A Compend of Geology. Leconte.

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## APPEALS

1. I am a lonely woman 52 years old, and not strong. I can do any kind of fancy work and would appreciate any crochet thread or quilt pieces that the *Cheerful Letter* friends would care to send. For reference I send Rev. G. C. Graham, Sturgills, N. C. Thanking you very much. Miss Rose Tyne, Lansing, N. C.

2. I am a little boy 11 years old. I would like something nice to read. My brother likes to read too. We like comic papers and he likes *American* magazines. Mama is a member of *Cheerful Letter* and would like to receive some quilt pieces and sewing thread. Thanking you in advance. Elgin Roberson, Elamsville, Va.

3. Mrs. Lake C. Rice will still be at her old address, Winnett, Mont., until further notice, and will be very glad to hear from all her *Cheerful Letter* friends. She has mislaid or lost her address book so cannot write to them personally.

4. Mrs. D. E. Howse, Nadine, N. M., would be glad for some good literature—*Ladies' Home Journal* (current issues), *Munsey*, *Pictorial Review*, along that line, after someone else has read them.

5. Miss Mattie E. Sale, Ronda, N. C., will be very grateful for copies of "The Call of the Wild," "The Pacing Mustang," "The Grizzly King," and "Nomads of the North" for a boy of 16. She also would appreciate "Modern Mechanics" and "The Normal Instructor and Primary Plans" after they have been read. She hasn't asked for books for a long time. A letter has been lost from a teacher in Salem who taught near the House of Seven Gables. This friend please write Mrs. Howse again.

6. I am crippled and having a lonesome life. I thought I would write and see if I could get me some quilt scraps or reading matter or anything the *Cheerful Letter* friends would love to send a lady of 58 years. Mrs. Sarah Woods, Clifton, N. C.

7. I wish to thank you and the *Cheerful Letter* friends for their kindnesses. Some of their addresses were lost during sickness and I could not thank each one personally and I wish to thank them through this dear little paper. Mrs. S. L. Turner, Dodson, Va., hopes her friends will not forget her in the future.

8. Mrs. E. V. Richardson, P. O. Box 273, Ansonville, N. C., is a poor woman with six children at home. Girls, 17, 14, 12, 10, 7 and one boy 4 years. All would be glad of an album and reading matter, also some quilt scraps for the mother.

9. I was glad to get your letter and would be glad to get reading matter or pictures. Thanking you, Mrs. Hettie Thomas, Endicott, Va. My pastor's name is J. G. Hash, Endicott, Va.

10. Mrs. Max Basby, Cor. Wine and Garnett Sts., Gainsville, Texas, would like to correspond with someone. She is 24 years old and in very poor health. She has two small children and would like some good reading and scraps for patchwork.

11. I write to thank you and all the dear friends for their cheer. I hope you print this letter so my dear friends who remembered me will know how deeply I appreciated it. I will be glad to hear from anyone. Mrs. Cara Jones, Jefferson, N. C.

12. I wish to thank all who remembered me at Christmas. I could not respond to all cards, therefore I take this way to thank each and every one for their kindness to me. Thank Mrs. Pyn-

chon for the bulbs. I did not know her address. Nora R. Colley, Clarkton, Va.

13. Mrs. Lelah Mabe, Lawsonville, N. C., wishes to thank all the dear *Cheerful Letter* friends who remembered her at Christmas time. To pass the rough winter days she would like some quilt pieces or any kind of thread for sewing or embroidery.

14. I am a widow and have an 18-year-old daughter. We live alone out in the country and would be awfully glad to receive some love and adventure stories or any old magazines to pass the time away. Mrs. Nettie Brogan, R. 2, Ferrum, Va.

15. Mrs. L. J. Turner, Box 10, Route 1, Dodson, Va., would appreciate good magazines, books or quilt pieces to help pass her lonesome hours away. She will try to answer all letters or cards that any friends would write her.

16. I should be glad if someone would send me embroidery patterns that they don't need. I would also be glad of any kinds of flower bulbs or any kinds of flowers. Thanking you in advance and for past favors, Elsie Thomas, Springwood, Va.

17. I am a lonely housekeeper and live out in the country not near any churches. I have a girl 10 years old and two boys, 3 and 1. I would be so thankful for reading matter for husband and myself and for my children, papers and cards. Quilt scraps or bits of embroidery thread would be appreciated. Mrs. Pearl Shelton, Dodson, Va.

18. Mrs. Thomas J. Powers, Lansing, N. C., writes, I have just finished reading the *Cheerful Letter* and I like it fine. I am the mother of two boys, ages 1 and 4. If some of the *Cheerful Letter* friends have any good reading material for myself and story and picture books for the boys I certainly would appreciate it. Rev. W. S. Graybeal, Brandon, N. C., is my reference.

19. Since we have heard from our *Cheerful Letter* friends we have had to part with our darling brother which makes it so much lonesomer. We would be very glad of quilt pieces or embroidery thread or any good reading to pass the lonely hours. Misses Mennie and Quia Birge, Chelsea, Okla., R. 2. Formerly of Big Cabin, Okla., R. 2.

20. Mrs. Cassie Hawn, Chelsea, Okla., and her little girl, 3½ years old, find it very lonesome living on a farm. Cards and bits of ribbon would please her little girl and good reading and quilt scraps would be acceptable to the mother, who is not well.

21. I thought I would drop a line or two, as it has been a long time since I wrote and it seems as though my *Cheerful Letter* friends have almost forgotten me. I received packages but the names were torn and I couldn't thank the people. I don't want them to think I didn't appreciate them. I would like to hear from Elizabeth Merriam, as I have mislaid her address. I would enjoy some quilt pieces, bits of embroidery thread, pieces of fancy work, or any good story magazines. My little sisters and brothers would be glad of any postcards. Miss Gladys Dotson, R. F. D. 4, Dayton, Tenn.

22. Mrs. G. W. Midkiff, R. F. D. 3, Halifax, Va., is a mother of four boys and lives on a farm. She would enjoy some good books and some for the children. They all go to school.

23. Miss Dovie E. Hall, Elamsville, Va., thinks her *Cheerful Letter* friends have forgotten her. She wants to correspond with someone and would be glad of some quilt pieces or embroidery thread. She gets lonesome during the winter months and would like something to work at to pass the long hours. She wishes success to all.

24. I want to thank you all for the happiness you have brought to our home. Some packages have no names and I don't know where to write. My health is not very good and I hope you will continue to send cheer and some A B C books for my little children. Mrs. Lilla Smith, R. 1, Sandy Ridge, N. C.

25. I wish to exchange letters with you all. My husband and I are very broken hearted because we have lost two children in the last eighteen months. I would appreciate some good reading. Mrs. Cora Dunlap, R. F. D. 9, Cleveland, Tenn.

26. I would love to have my name enrolled in the *Cheerful Letter* list as it would be a lot of pleasure to me to get letters. I am 46 years old and have belonged to the church 25 years. I suffer from rheumatism and cannot get out at times but I don't want to complain because God has given me so many blessings. I wish you great success in your undertakings and give the name of Elder D. L. Shepherd as my reference. Mrs. Lummie Elliott, R. 1, Box 71, Clifton, N. C.

27. Mrs. Mary Blevins, Star Route, Price, N. C., lives in the mountain region and owing to a sick husband and the care of three children, Stella 7, Della 6, Uyla 2, cannot get away to go to meeting often. She would appreciate something to amuse the children and some reading matter for herself. She would also like a correspondent.

28. Mrs. Sulie Baldwin, R. 1, care of A. F. Marshall, Cleveland, Tenn., has been very sick. Any kind of cheer would be appreciated for her and the children. Her old address was R. 1, Athens, Tenn.

29. It has been a long time since I heard from any of the friends, so I come again asking to please remember me during the long cold winter days. I have had a lot of sickness in my home the past year which makes it very hard. I pray that some of the dear friends will send me a little cheer. I am a great lover of pieces and bits of

thread. May God bless you all is my daily prayer. Mrs. W. R. Eanes, R. 2, Bassett, Va.

30. Mrs. Mattie E. Leake, R. 11, Spencer, Va., is a widow with a boy, age 13. She asks for cheer to comfort them in their lonely hours. A good story book for the little boy would be appreciated and the mother would be glad of a correspondent and some quilt pieces and thread. Mr. Leake is afflicted with rheumatism. Reference, Rev. G. L. Ashworth, Spencer, Va.

31. I take this means of thanking everyone of the kind *Cheerful Letter* friends who have remembered me in any way. It gives my little family lots of pleasure to get a package. My little girl, Helen Maxine, 2½ years old, is a great lover of books and cards, and I will be real glad of some books for her. I am a friend. Mrs. Olan Godfrey, Rupert, Ark.

32. Magazines of all kinds, good books for adults, picture books and cards for children would be gratefully received and distributed to worthy families, by Rev. T. M. Sexton, Silas Creek, N. C.

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### Changes of Address

Mrs. Etha L. Carlton, from Chase City, Va., Box 114, to Beach Haven, N. J.

Misses Mennie and Quia Birge, from Big Cabin, Okla., R. 2, to Chelsea, Okla., R. 2.

Mrs. Sulie Baldwin, from Athens, Tenn., R. 1, to Cleveland, Tenn., R. 1, care of A. F. Marshall.

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Build for yourself a strong box,
Fasten each part with care.
When it's as strong as your heart can make it
Put all your troubles there.
Lock in it all thoughts of failure,
Each bitter cup that you quaff;
Hide in it all of your heartaches,
Then sit on the lid and laugh.

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## A FEW SECRETS ABOUT FITTING

Many women hesitate to make their own frocks because they do not understand just how to fit them. "Fitting is the easiest thing in the world," declares the expert, "once you know the fundamental rule. That is, the cross threads of the material should run straight around the figure. If they dip down in some places and run up in others, something is decidedly wrong. The whole fitting problem lies in discovering where the lines of the garment need to be changed to bring the cross threads of the cloth into the correct position."

Often a slight alteration at the shoulder seam will accomplish this. If the shoulders are unusually sloping, the garment will wrinkle from the neck to the underarm seam, both back and front, when it is tried on for fitting. This is because the cross threads of the material sag at the sides. The remedy is effected by repinning the shoulder seams so they conform to the lines of the shoulders. This process may take up the armhole so it will be necessary to slash it slightly at the curve to make it fit nicely and not bind the arm. Remove the garment, trim out the armhole and reshape the shoulder seam. Using as a guide the pieces cut off, make similar alterations on the pattern so the next time it is used the same trouble will not recur.

### Consider the Cross Threads

The thin, hollow-chested woman often finds that high-necked frocks draw and wrinkle at the base of her neck. Even her low-necked gowns frequently have baggy, sagging lines in the front, a trouble that is not always eliminated by the amateur's method of taking the sag out at the bottom by raising the hem line.

The body of the dress cannot look trim unless the center front is lifted to bring the cross threads of the material into their proper position: so they run straight around the figure. The alteration is made at the shoulder seams by taking the front up considerably near the neck and tapering the alteration toward the armhole. This will make it necessary to slash the neck and make a new neckline.

Unusually square shoulders may make a bodice wrinkle from the shoulders in one or more slanting lines. Even a slight irregularity in the shoulder line often causes frocks to wrinkle badly. If the shoulders take the material up so the cross threads of the cloth run down toward the center, a shoulder seam alteration must be made to lift the center of the garment to its proper position. By drawing up the end of the shoulder seam at the neck, one eliminates such wrinkles. Of course, this demands a new neck line.

### Correct the Pattern Also

Shoulders unusually straight and a flat back make gowns drag down in the back and fit in ugly baggy lines about the waist and low in the back. This case demands a lifting of the back of the dress at the shoulders. This may make necessary a new neck line and a slight slashing of the material back of the armholes under the arms. This alteration will correct the fit of the waist of the dress, and it may help the hang of the skirt. If the skirt still bags in the back after the alteration at the shoulders, lift the back of the skirt slightly at the belt line and fasten it there under the girdle that is now so popular as a finish.

All these alterations made in the dress should be duplicated on the pattern before that is put away. It takes time, it is true, and just when one is most interested in getting ahead with the work, but minutes spent then will save hours later when the pattern is used again.—*Christian Science Monitor.*

## "GOOD HEALTH" NOTES

### New York and London War on "Smoke Clouds"

"We all know that smoke is a nuisance. Just how much of a nuisance, and why, the Mellon Institute at Pittsburgh is at pains to point out in a pamphlet from which our local Department of Health gleans the following seven-point survey. (1) Lowers resistance to disease. (2) Injures buildings. (3) Destroys real estate values. People move out into the suburbs, where they can get a look at the sun once in a while. (4) Depreciates merchandise and increases the cost of its care. That is a point our New York merchants have often brought against the local smoke evil. (5) Increases soap bills and cleaning bills, and adds to the cost of living. (6) Injures trees. (7) Increases the community's electric light bills."

The British Air Ministry is fighting the "London Fog," blamed as frequent cause of rickets and tuberculosis. As sun-light rays cure illness, it is logical to assume their absence will increase it. The Air Pollution Advisory Committee states there are between 800,000 and 1,600,000 particles of soot crammed in every cubic inch of London foggy air. Each person breathes about 30,000 cubic inches per hour. Under bad fog conditions, therefore, nearly everyone in central London inhales from 24,000,000,000 to 48,000,000,000 particles of soot in one hour. Dr. J. S. Owens, head of the committee, considers the shutting out of ultra-violet rays, the most harmful feature of air pollution. "On a winter's morning 280 tons of soot are produced in three hours over London by domestic fires. Burning 17,000,000 tons of coal, London loses through the smoke pall 50 per cent of the winter sunshine and 50 per cent of the Winter daylight." A clock-work device measuring air pollution, shows it begins to thicken at 7 A.M., is greatest at 10, afterward gradually clearing except for special increase of density around 6 P.M. On Sunday the figures are an hour later.

The London Fuel Research Board reports the discovery of a smokeless fuel, costing the same as good home burning coal, which should greatly reduce the smoke pall. Announcement is also made of a fog-piercing light which is scarcely distinguishable from sunlight. This will help in navigation, sea or air, aid the cinema industry and the cure of disease. "In the tissues of the body the light rays are transferred into heat and the energy is thus absorbed and utilized as a life force, improving the heart's action, producing a sense of warmth and stimulating the normal defenses of the body."

From the New York Skin and Cancer Hospital we learn that many cases of eczema formerly thought incurable are successfully treated by removing arsenic from the system. Arsenical poisoning, resulting in neuritis and paralysis, is the cause of 30 per cent of cases. It is acquired from tobacco, foods from which insecticide sprays have not been properly washed, mainly apples, grapes, cherries, peaches, celery, lettuce, peas and beans; or through industrial work.

* * *

### Parents' Responsibility Regarding Diphtheria

Dr. Wynne, Commissioner of Health, New York City, recently declared diphtheria could be wiped out if children were immunized with toxin-antitoxin. Through an educational campaign, he hopes to end the scourge by 1933. There were 13,500 cases, with 715 deaths, in the past year, involving expenditure of millions and 60,000 calls from Health Department inspectors and nurses. In 44 Diphtheria Preventive Clinics, 2,490 children were treated in two days. Information printed in ten languages is eagerly sought. The harmless inoculation is given quickly and one doctor and nurse can make hundreds of children safe in one day. As the demand for the serum has increased 27 per cent since the campaign began, many children are also being treated by private physicians.

* * *

According to Dr. Helen T. Woolsy, Director of the Institute of Child Welfare Research, Teachers College and Columbia University, tests applied to children from two to eleven months old show a child's intelligence is as much the product of the opportunities for growth provided in its environment as of its heredity. Formerly children of fourteen were considered too young to show their future capabilities; now tests are made as early as possible. At two months, no difference is found between "institutional children" and those from superior homes, but a marked difference is shown at four months, and one-year-old children, with better intellectual inheritance, are one month ahead in development. In the Speyer School, of which Dr. Woolsy is head, the same improvement appears in children attending over a certain period, showing capacity for mental growth to be partly an inherited quality and partly the chance to acquire, supplied by the necessary stimuli. Mothers should realize that common home tools may stimulate mental growth. For example, one mother gives her two-year-old (the age which loves to pound) a hammer, nails and big bars of yellow soap into which to drive them. "That is distinctly good education, for we all have to use a hammer sooner or later, and meanwhile the child is learning motor coördination."

We suggest also the tearing of newspaper into long narrow strips which the child may see wet

and crumpled for cleaning tiles, oilcloth and floor, or spread over the rug before sweeping, thus learning helpfulness with motor control.

LAURA R. DONNELL.

## FOUR THINGS

FOUR things a man must learn to do
If he would keep his record true—
To think without confusion, clearly;
To love his fellow men sincerely;
To act from honest motives purely;
To trust in God and Heaven securely.

—*Henry Van Dyke.*

## A SCHOOL FOR DOGS

ARTHUR has been busy all summer teaching his boy friends' dogs to sit up. He has quite a knack for it, and his method, while novel, is no secret.

The schoolroom is a shed on the back of the lot used by the boys as a play room, and thither they bring their dogs in the mornings for a "lesson."

Arthur is very methodical and businesslike about it. The schoolroom property consists of an old parlor stand out of the attic which his mother let him have, and a box of dog biscuits.

First, two or three biscuits are broken into small pieces and placed on the stand, out of the dog's reach. Then the dog is set up on its haunches, with its forepaws firmly grasped in Arthur's hand, and fed the biscuits, a bite at a time. Even the tiny puppies, that are so fat and wriggly that they can hardly sit up at all, soon get the idea that as long as they stay in position they get biscuits—when they fail, no titbits.

The next step is teaching the dog to sit alone. About the third or fourth lesson Arthur begins to try them alone, by removing the supporting hand, at the same time feeding a bite of biscuit. Some dogs learn to balance themselves in two or three lessons, according to the age and general aptitude of the dog.

Arthur says that it is important to use the same words and gestures to begin the lesson every time, as that is an essential part of the training. Arthur's first words to the dog are: "Sit up, sir," and he raises his finger as a signal, and in a surprisingly short time the dog tries to get into the position for the coveted treat, which he knows is coming.

After he has once done the trick correctly, and been petted and rewarded for it, the dog never forgets it; and it is only necessary for his little master to raise his finger, and say, as Arthur does: "Sit up, sir," to get him to pose at any time. But Arthur thinks it is only fair that the dog should continue to be rewarded for it, since he has been taught to expect it.—*Clipped.*

## ANCIENT EARRINGS

"QUEEN of 3000 B.C. Wore Earrings!" runs the headline of a recent article featuring the report of the excavations at Ur. "Queen of 5000 years ago used rouge, wore earrings and a wig."

At last we have found, in the person of her Antique Ladyship, the possible founder of the earring fashion. Before her honorable mummy was dug up, the oldest earrings that antiquarians had been able to discover were such as appear on the huge statues on the monuments of Khorsabad, now in the gallery of Asiatic Antiquities in the Louvre.

It would seem that primitive peoples have ever had an instinct to decorate the ears, and it is rather difficult to decide whether the custom was coquetry or barbarism. M. Eugène Fontenay advises us to thank the primitive man for having given us an ornament that all the world now finds becoming, but which, had it not existed, no one in our time would dare to invent.

The oldest earrings were, of course, the most simple. Usually a rude cross or amphore, as the antique vase form is called, attached to a ring of some importance in size that passed through the ear. These were found on certain personages only. Farmers, sailors and common soldiers never wore them, but they have been found in the ears of statues representing warriors, kings and ministers. This leads to the conclusion that in old Assyria, they were marks of distinction.

### BIBLICAL REFERENCES

It would seem that the Egyptians only, of early peoples, did not wear earrings, as no trace of them has been found in existing antique treasures up to the nineteenth dynasty. Later they were found on the statues of sovereigns and prophets. This would indicate that the earring was sacred in those olden times, especially if one remembers that passage in Genesis where the children of Jacob brought to him all their strange gods, "with their earrings." One reads also in Genesis that the Israelites and their wives brought their rings, bracelets and earrings to Moses to be melted and used in the construction of the tabernacle.

In France the history of this pretty ear ornament commences in the Carolingian period and continues through seven centuries. Strangely enough, it seems to have been "demodée" between the eleventh and the sixteenth centuries, as no mention of it is made by Jean de Garlande, who enumerates all other current forms of jewelry. However, it appears in the household accounts of the Ducs d'Orleans at the end of the fourteenth century.

Most portraits of the women of this period show heavy bands of hair, rendering the ear

jewel totally useless. But at this same epoch one of Raphael's portraits pictures a simple gold earring, marking perhaps an attempt to reinstate the ornament.

### In the 1500's

From that time on, beautifully engraved and elaborately carved gold ear ornaments appeared, and it was in the early sixteenth century that the fashion of twin pear-shaped pearls called "unions d'excellence" commenced to be worn. These have continued to be the style up to the present day, though the name has long since been forgotten.

In the seventeenth century long, elaborate earrings of involved design, set with tiny stones, are shown in most of the old portraits. They were probably of Spanish origin. The designs are exquisitely worked out, usually in a flower motive and often with tiny rubies for buds.

The famous earrings of Marie Antoinette were remarkable for their richness rather than for their fine workmanship. They consisted of four huge diamonds set in a line with an immense, beautifully cut stone attached as a pendant. Completely encircling the ear were ten more good-sized diamonds. One of the two pendant diamonds weighed 21 carats and the other 17½.

Under Napoleon the chiseled gold earring lost its vogue and more involved fashions in ear adornments came into favor. Cameos were suspended from large rings; numerous motives were carved from onyx and coral. Rich women wore large sapphires, turquoises and pearls and, finally, a single huge diamond called in that time a "dormeuse."

### As Seen in Various Shops

But in Europe at the present time, not all the old earrings are shut up in museums. No, indeed; the shops of Paris that specialize in "antiques," more or less old, have numerous charming old pairs in their windows. Every kind of precious stone is seen, but the most unusual earrings are perhaps those of various other materials.

One Spanish shop shows intricate silver pendants three inches long, set with brilliants. Beside them dangle a crude but artistic pair which resemble the rude silver buttons seen all over Spain.

A beautiful set was purchased in Germany, only a short time ago. Two beautifully cut pear-shaped pendants of smoked amethyst fall from the shelter of twin leaves exquisitely carved from the same stone. The color of these is particularly intriguing, as it turns from dark brown in the daytime to a glowing purple in artificial light.

Huge peasant earrings made of seed pearls, delicately strung on horsehair and mounted on gold, grace the window of a Russian dressmaking shop. These are crude and bulging in form, but enormously effective, touching the shoulders of the wearer and measuring several inches across.

### Even of Wedgwood Ware

In the last year or two, gorgeous ornaments of a crude enamel made in the province of Bresse in central France have become a la mode. (There are fashions in antiques, as any antiquaire will tell you.) Earrings of this rough, multicolored enamel shot with gold are not rare.

Carved ivory of meticulous workmanship and crude hunks of sea-amber lie side by side. Beautifully wrought circlets of Chinese jade, hung by a slender gold chain, tempt the blonde. Quaint bunches of grapes in brilliant coral lie in wait for the brunette.

Tortoise shell inlaid with gold and even a huge pair made of blue Wedgwood hang beside a magnificent set in hammered gold. These last are in the shape of life-sized acorns with oak leaves delicately wrought of the same material.

And our seemingly modern system of attachment by a little screw isn't modern at all! It was discovered by some haughty lady centuries ago, as has been learned by the undulations in the unpierced but earringed ears of primitive statues.—*Selected.*

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## A MOTOR ROMANCE

*(Solution)*

He thought her a maiden most wondrously fair;
She wore a blue HOOD on her bright golden hair.
A MUFFLER around her fair throat she did twine,
Oh, she was a beauty he could but opine;
And each little SHOE was so dainty and trim,
Like some Cinderella she just seemed to him.
To gaze on her face was to see and admire,
He thought of her beauty he never could TIRE;
But when would he win her? Oh, there was the rub,
She came from that erudite city, the HUB,
While he in New York saw the first light of day,
And lived near the BATTERY down by the bay.
His deep love to THROTTLE he tried all in vain,
'T would CLUTCH at his heart 'till it gave him a pain:
Quoth he, "I tell you 't is not any joke,"
And then of his ardent affection he SPOKE.
"Oh, have you for me just of love a dim SPARK,
And then I'd be happy, I can but remark;
But if you refuse me, why then it is clear
My heart it will weigh most a TONNEAU, my dear.
Indeed I am pining, sweetheart, for your sake,
And if you refuse me, my heart it must BRAKE."
The maid to his pleading did gracefully yield.
Said she, "You shall be my protector and SHIELD.
At some future day I will be your dear wife,
Together we gladly will motor through life."

## A PAGE FOR THE CHILDREN

### BOBBY'S GIFT

THROUGH no fault of his own, Bobby found it necessary to be away from school for two whole weeks. Perhaps that may not seem a hardship to some little boys, but it was to Bobby, for he loved his school and his teacher. He had not been absent before, even for a day, during the two years in which he had been going to school.

After his absence he found that he was quite behind his class in many things, and that, too, was a hardship, for he loved to learn and looked forward eagerly to the day when he could read all his books himself, without asking grown people to read to him so much.

And right here is where Bobby became so grateful to his teacher that he tried and tried to think of something he could give her to show her how grateful he was. For Miss Strong, his teacher, although she had many other boys and girls to teach, seemed never too busy to give Bobby a little extra help, so that before the roses were in bloom he found that he had caught up with his classmates.

Bobby said, "Thank you, Miss Strong," many times, of course, and he tried to be obedient and attentive in his work, but, although he didn't say anything about it, he felt that he wanted to do something more, and finally he found a chance.

It was the last day of school, a time when the children were accustomed to bring little gifts to their teacher—partly, you know, because it is always such fun to give things to people, especially surprise things, and then, too, of course, because they loved their teacher. Miss Strong's desk looked like a little shop window, so bright it was with flowers and bits of colored ribbon and paper. But among all the little gifts there wasn't a thing from Bobby, for he couldn't think of anything to give.

"I've mislaid my pencil again," said Miss Strong just before school was out, and just a little giggle went around the room, for teacher's pencils were quite a little joke. If they weren't mislaid they never seemed sharp enough, and everybody knows how necessary it is that a teacher should always have a pencil in good condition.

No one said anything for a second and then all of a sudden Bobby knew exactly what he wanted to give Miss Strong. He opened his school companion and looked inside. There was the pencil that Uncle Walt had given him the day before. It certainly was a beauty—bright red, with a gold ring at the end, so that you could hang it around your neck if you wanted to. Beside it lay his new pen-knife.

"Here's a pencil," said Bobby quickly, handing it to Miss Strong.

"Thank you, Bobby," said Miss Strong, "what a fine point it has!"

School was over in a few minutes, and as the children were passing out Miss Strong called Bobby back to give him his pencil.

"It's yours, Miss Strong," said Bobby, "and I'm going to keep it sharp. You let me know when it needs it."

"O, Bobby!" answered Miss Strong, "I'll hang it round my neck and then I'll always have it when I need it. I never had a lovelier present. Thank you so much. You have taught me a fine lesson, dear."

Bobby couldn't understand how he could teach teacher, but he was very happy, and no doubt you can all guess why.—*Christian Science Monitor.*

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THERE is an idea abroad among moral people that they should make their neighbors good. One person I have to make good: myself.

But my duty to my neighbor is much more nearly expressed by saying that I have to make him *happy*—if I may.—*R. L. Stevenson.*

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FORTUNE awaits the dealer who can give second-hand cars the historic value of antiques. —*Arkansas Gazette.*

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### TWO BEAR FAMILIES

FROM the sheltered bower of balsams where I had built my wigwam, I could look up a rolling, meadowy breast of the ridge, so perfect in its adornment of vine and bush and small clumps of young trees that, to one not entirely acquainted with the exquisite art of nature, it would almost seem as though a human landscape architect had "laid out" the little paradise which was my hillside back yard. On this particular morning, coming up quietly, my eyes were greeted by an amazingly pretty spectacle. The green hillside, soft and velvety in the sunlight and shadow of the morning, was in full possession of two families of black bears.

So close were the nearest of them to me that I dropped like a shot beneath a big rock, and the breath of air that was stirring being in my favor, I was at a splendid vantage point to take in the whole scene. Within forty yards of me were a mother and three cubs, and a little higher up—perhaps twice that distance—were a mother and two cubs. At almost the very crest of the ridge were two more bears, which I at first thought were adults. A closer inspection assured me they were last year's cubs, and possibly not more than a third grown.

For almost two hours, the bears fed on the

hillside. Several times the two families drew so near together that the cubs intermingled and the mothers almost rubbed sides.

It was all so fine that I had an impelling desire to go up on the hillside and become a comrade with them. When the feeding was over, and the cubs were wrestling and running about in play, I almost rose up from behind my rock to call out my friendship to them. The lack of one thing held me back—that one thing which all nature is crying out for—a language. I feel they would have welcomed me could I have told them I was a friend, and wanted to play with them, and make them a present of some sugar. But instead of that this is what happened.

In their play, two of the cubs had descended within twenty feet of my rock. One of these was the gourmand. Somehow, he lost his balance, rolled over, and came tumbling down. When he stopped he was not more than half a dozen feet from me. As he brought his fat little body to its feet he saw me. His eyes fairly popped. It seemed to me that for a full minute he did not move or breathe. And during that same minute I remained as still as a rock. In his amazement and his wonder, he was the funniest thing I had ever seen, and in spite of myself, my face broke into a grin. Instantly there came out of him a little, piggish grunt—and he was off. Up that hillside he went as if the world was after him. He did not stop when he reached his mother and the other cubs, but seemed to hit it still faster for the top of the ridge. The mother looked after him, sniffed the air, and rose to her feet. In half a minute she was lumbering after him, the two remaining cubs hustling ahead of her.

A hundred yards away, the second mother bear took the warning. In a very short time they had all disappeared over the cap of the ridge. —*James Oliver Curwood, in "God's Country: the Trail to Happiness."*

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## THE CHEERFUL LETTER EXCHANGE

### ITS PURPOSE

To cheer and comfort those who are ill, lonely, or discouraged, through the exchange of letters and by gifts of books and magazines.

To help those who live far from schools, or who wish to continue their studies by means of correspondence with a teacher.

To give to those living far from church some of the helps which churches give. One good sermon or similar article is printed in each number. These sermons are never doctrinal, but present only such simple religious truths and principles as are agreed on by all churches.

### WHERE TO WRITE

1. *Letters paying for subscriptions to the paper,* fifty cents a year, should be sent to the Cheerful Letter Exchange, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass. Checks or postal orders should be made payable to the Cheerful Letter Exchange.

2. *Letters asking for correspondents* should be sent to the Chairman, Mrs. H. A. Stevens, 25 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.

3. *Letters asking for help in studying at home* should be sent to Mrs. George O. Sands, Brimble Ave., North Beverly, Mass.

The Home Study Committee has on hand a variety of schoolbooks which may be used by students either at home or in the schoolroom. The aim of the teachers is to help in any study where help is needed. Often this may fit a person for a higher grade of work.

4. *Letters about the establishment of Circulating Libraries* should be sent to Mrs. Henry R. Bowser, 36 Lancaster St., Cambridge, Mass.

A Circulating Library will be started in any small community needing one, if proper location and care can be furnished and satisfactory references can be given. Two hundred and thirty-nine are now on our lists.

5. The Secretary of the Cheerful Letter Exchange, Miss Ethel L. Hersey, Hingham, Mass., should receive the more general correspondence from workers on the local committees, or from others interested in the organization and its methods.

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